" (c) A list[a] of newspapers suitable for Government advertisements is laid on the table of the House.

" (d) The list is revised by Government as and when it is considered necessary."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, why in certain daily newspapers of the City of Madras, certain Government advertisements appear, and in the case of other newspapers they do not, in spite of the fact that their circulation is better than the circulation of the papers which receive advertisements? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" As I have already stated, a list of newspapers which Government consider suitable for advertisements has been furnished to the heads of departments, and they are asked to select the papers for giving their advertisements."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, then, Sir, whether the head of a department, who is authorized to exercise his discretion, can give advertisement to a paper the circulation of which is poor? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member would bring to the notice of Government that there is a wrong exercise of this discretion by any head of the department, Government will take up the matter."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the Madras Government are employing a European agency for placing advertisements in Madras newspapers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Notice, Sir."

Publication of the Hindi journal by the Department of Information.

* 144 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to cease publication of the Hindi journal issued by the Department of Information ;

(b) if so, the posts in the department, which have thereby become suplus and the amount of saving effected in annual expenditure ;

(c) whether the Government propose to effect further economies by stopping the other journals published by the department ;

(d) what are the journals at present issued by the department and their paid circulations ;

(e) what efforts were made to increase the paid circulation of these journals; and

(f) with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government decided to discontinue the Hindustani edition of

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 816–817 infra.

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Madras Information with effect from 1st November 1947 and notices were served on the members of the staff whose services would be dispensed with, with effect from 1st November 1947. Subsequently, the Editor of the Hindustani edition submitted revised proposals involving considerable reduction in the total expenditure. The Government have after due consideration reconsidered their previous decision and decided to continue the publication of the Hindustani edition for the present, on the basis of the revised proposals.

"(b) In view of the answer to clause (a) one assistant and one moulvi will become surplus staff; the savings effected in the total expenditure will be Rs. 5,760 per annum.

"(c) No.

"(d)

Madras Information (English)	1,740
Chennai Chaithi (Tamil)	1,141
Rashtra Samacharamu (Telugu)	681
Madras Patrika (Malayalam)	135
Madrasu Samachara (Kannada)	611
Dakshini Hind (Hindustani)	104

"(e) On 14th October 1947 the Government ordered the reduction in the sale price of a copy from four annas to two annas in respect of English and regional language editions and from eight annas to six annas in respect of the Hindustani edition to popularize and make them available to the general public at a cheaper rate. It is proposed to advertise the reduced rates in certain newspapers.

"(f) In view of the answer to (e) the result has to be watched."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" How much is the expenditure according to their present pay?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Rs. 720 is the estimated expenditure; it may be less."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Do the Government think that it is a proper expenditure for a hundred copies?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" We hope to try this revised proposal for six months. We do feel that the expenditure will be justified."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Do the Government not consider it a waste of public funds to publish a journal which has little or no circulation?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government do not consider the revised proposal a waste of public funds."

SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Is it not worthwhile spending more money in view of the fact that we may get more money by way of advertisements?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir; if the results justify more expenditure, we shall certainly spend more money."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it the idea of the Government to make people Hindi-minded? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is not the idea so far as this proposal is concerned."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Do these journals published by this Government publish or print anything which is not given publicity already freely in the journals of this Province? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That also may be an item of publication."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that Madras Information is merely a reproduction of the press communiqués already published in the daily newspapers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" It is not exactly so; we are also revising these publications."

Number of overseers in the Province.

* 145 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the number of overseers employed in the Public Works Department throughout the Province?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The total number of overseers at present employed in the Public Works Department (including projects) is 169."

Irrigation schemes in the Vizagapatam district.

* 146 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the irrigation schemes (minor and major) in the Vizagapatam district for which plans and estimates are (i) ready, and (ii) are being made ready;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to give a list of the schemes with their estimates;

(*c*) whether the Government are taking up the execution of any of these schemes this year; and

(*d*) if so, what are they?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The [a] answer to the question is laid on the table of the House."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 818–823 infra.